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A Record For the State.

Corn growers throughout North Carolina are at present very much interested in learning the best method of increasing their yields, and numerous contests have been organized for the purpose of increasing this interest. One of the most striking examples of what careful preparation and diligent cultivation will accomplish is found on the farm of Mr. J. F. Batts of Garner, Wake county, where last year a single acre produced a fraction over 226 bushels of corn. The Lexington Dispatch republishes Mr. Batts' own account of how the yield was made, and although not every farmer will be able to equal Mr. Batts' figures, the latter's experience develops several important principles from which undoubtedly benefit may be derived.

"I attribute much of my success to seed selection," declares Mr. Batts. "I have kept a seed patch seven years and on this patch I have year by year planted my best seed, selecting the seed from the best ears with a view to good size and quality and prolific type. I thought I had the seed corn that would win if I gave it a fair chance and I spared nothing to give it that chance." The soil selected for the experiment was scarcely of even average fertility, as its yield the year before had been only eight bushels of wheat. Mr. Batts began its preparation by planting peas from which he had cut the hay. In March, after heavy manuring, the land was ploughed twelve inches deep and subsoiled six inches. Next month the manuring and ploughing were repeated, this time to a depth of twenty inches. Fertilizer consisting of 800 pounds of acid phosphate and 2,000 pounds of cotton seed meal was harrowed in and the selected seed were planted at intervals of eight inches, the rows being 41 inches apart. About a ton and a half of fertilizer was added after the planting, and Mr. Batts, estimate of the cost of the crop was \$139.

It will be noted that the seed which produced this rather remarkable yield was the result of a seven-year-old patch. In scientific agriculture it is a mistake to look for results before due perseverance has given them a chance to materialize. This proposition; axiomatic as it may appear, needs to be impressed over and over again upon the minds of our farmers. Another matter of great interest in connection with this experiment is the fact that the ploughing was deep. Mere scratching of the surface will not suffice to bring about the best results. Again, the fertilizer used was varied as well as abundant. The list of principles illustrated by Mr. Batts' success might be extended almost indefinitely. The State Department of Agriculture has issued a bulletin containing a detailed report of the steps taken by the Wake county farmer from the first planting of the peas until after the corn was cut, and a study of this document will repay any and every corn-grower.—Charlotte Observer.

Black Fiends Lynched.

Bonifay, Fla., July 30.—Two negroes after confessing to the murder of Bessie Morrison, twelve years old, were hanged here by an infuriated mob this afternoon.

The slain girl was on her way to school Friday morning. When she did not return Friday night posses began to search for her and the body was in a small lake.

The negroes were tracked by bloodstains on the ground. It is believed the blacks lay in wait for the girl, assaulted and then murdered her.

While on their way to jail with the prisoners, the officers were overpowered by a mob. The negroes were taken away and strung to a tree and their bodies riddled with shot.

It is said that a third negro has since been shot and he is being sought.

"PRIVILEGE" THE ISSUE.

The Situation Nationally as Viewed by John W. Kern, Once Candidate for Vice-President.

A dispatch from Indianapolis quotes John W. Kern as follows:

"The republican party being the parent of the protective system cannot be expected to destroy its off-spring. Even the insurgents cling to the system and proclaim its righteousness while declaring themselves in favor of reducing the duty in certain schedules; substituting as it were, petit larceny for grand larceny; plain, unostentatious burglary for highway robbery. Only the democratic party can be trusted to work out the needed reform, but to fit itself for the work it must select for its leaders men free from alliances with special interests; men strong enough, brave enough and discreet enough to strike down the unlawful monopolies that plunder the people, while at the same time protecting an encouraging every legitimate enterprise in the land."

That is the statement of John Worth Kern, of Indianapolis, once the candidate of his party for vice president, and now a candidate for the United States senate with the recommendation of the democratic convention of his state. The use of such expressions as "larceny and robbery" show that Mr. Kern is one of those who look upon the tariff question as a moral issue. He seems indeed to be one of those thinkers to whose minds most questions present themselves as issues of right or wrong one, one who would concern himself with the honesty or dishonesty or a proposed action before giving any heed to consideration of profit or expediency.

As the presidential campaign made his character and appearance familiar to the public, little is needed now in the way of personal description. He is of medium height, lean and sinewy. The head is large and well rounded; the forehead high and square. The nose is long, straight and pointed at the end, the tip extending noticeably beyond the nostrils. The lower part of the face is covered by a mustache and a beard, both of which are strongly marked with grey. But the thin hair upon the head is black, the kind of black that is seen on the raven's wing; there is vigor in it and it gives a youthful look to the face, despite the lines under the eyes and along the cheek that tell of years, as well as of study.

Mr. Kern is indifferent to the appearance of dress and prefers comfort to elegance. This is shown by the fact that he comes to his office in negligee attire and wears it carelessly. His voice is low and well modulated. As his talk goes on a strain of humor shows itself now and again, not so much in words as in tone of the voice and the twinkle of the eye. The eyes, indeed, have a good part of the conversation. Their color is an unusual hue of brown, in itself a distinctive feature, and they are furthermore much more expressive of the varying sentiments of the speaker than is common among men.

The manner of address is cordial without ceremony. He does not trouble himself to shake hands with a casual caller, but gives him welcome with a cheery "Come in and take a seat." The office, like the dress, shows a man careless of the minor elegance of life. The carpet is old and worn, the desk is littered with papers. It is strictly a place of business. One can hardly imagine a man wishing to loaf there.

When once the conversation reaches politics the energies of the man show themselves. He doesn't drawl; he doesn't have to be questioned, and he doesn't talk platitudes. He has said the difference between a Beveridge tariff and an Aldrich tariff is merely a substitution of petit larceny for grand larceny; that the only hope for reform is in the democratic

party, then he goes on:

"The question of tariff taxation will loom up large in the next campaign. People are coming to know that almost every ill affecting the body politic finds its origin in the vicious system of protective tariff legislation. The avowed object of that system is to shut out foreign competition, but results show that when that object has been attained domestic competition is stifled by the formation of trusts and combines, so that the work of plundering the people may proceed without let or hindrance.

Mr. Kern does not confine himself to generalities. He gives specific instances of plunder:

"The few men composing the sugar trust, the steel trust and kindred monopolies can levy tribute upon every home in the country every day in the year. Take the steel trust for illustration. There are in this country 20,000,000 homes in which the products of that commodity are in daily use. One of each of these homes there comes day by day a little stream of money, all converging at the treasury of the steel company. Thus was the colossal fortune of Carnegie builded up. In the same way scores of other great fortunes are being accumulated by men who are favored by special legislation.

"Under such a system it is not strange the wealth of the country is being rapidly transferred from the pockets of the men who produce it and centered in the hands of a few men. It was conclusively shown by Senator La Follette in speech two years ago that the financial and industrial affairs of this great republic are absolutely controlled by a handful of men, less than one hundred in number. It must be apparent to every man who thinks that if present conditions continue the swollen fortunes will grow greater the processes of absorption and concentration will go on, the lot of the toiler will become more and more intolerable, so that it will not be many years before we will be confronted by the menace of some sort of revolution.

"The American people perceive the evil that surrounds them, and as a result the chances of democratic success in the next national campaign have brightened wonderfully. The defiant attitude of the protected interests toward the people and the failure of the Taft administration to carry out the re-election, pledges of the party tend to convince intelligent voters that in democratic success lies the only reasonable hope of reform."

When asked for a succinct statement of the course of the democratic party should pursue at this juncture Mr. Kern wrote and signed the three paragraphs which appear over his name elsewhere.

Turning from national politics to the Indiana campaign, in which his own fortunes as a candidate for the senate are involved, Mr. Kern became less serious. At times he was even humorous. Thus he sized up the activities of the Beveridge camp under the general term "whirligigery," because as he said, they so strikingly illustrated the effects of the whirligig of politics.

"In Indiana," said he, "the issue just now is not tariff for revenue against absolute protection, but against Senator Beveridge's ideas of protection. The senator is in favor of the protection principle and the protective system but he is opposed to all protective schedules that he thinks are unpopular in Indiana. To help the senator in his campaign the aid of Roosevelt has been sought, and, it is said, has been promised. The men who went to Oyster Bay are William Dudley Foulke and Lucius B. Swift. Both of these men are old-dyed-in-the-wool tariff reformers. Foulke was one of Grover Cleveland's stoutest supporters. In 1892, he helped to humiliate President Harrison by taking

from him the electoral vote of his own state. Next, we must remember that Mr. Roosevelt has promised to go to Massachusetts to help Senator Lodge support the Aldrich tariff and the whole stand-pat programme against the republican insurgents of that state. Finally, it is to be borne in mind that until very recently Senator Beveridge had himself been a defender of high tariffs and trusts and has publicly declared that great corporations and combinations are part of the economic uplift of the time, distinctly beneficial to all forms of industry.

"Now then," said Mr. Kern, "we have here two old Cleveland tariff reformers going to New York to get the friend of a Massachusetts stand-patter to come to Indiana to support an insurgent who called the stand-patters rascals and denounces them as 'the powers of pillage,' this insurgent being a statesman who only a little while ago was himself a supporter of the powers. If that be not whirligigery what is it?"

"To old-time republicans of Indiana," continued Mr. Kern, "to the men who stood for Harrison and protection against Cleveland and reform, it must seem strange to see Cleveland reformers taking the leading part in a republican campaign and inviting speakers to come out here and support an insurgent in denouncing the regulars."

As to the result of the campaign, Mr. Kern makes no prediction. When asked to give an opinion on the subject his eye "the date of Roosevelt's speech will have something to do with it. If his speech in Indiana is made after the speech in Massachusetts; if he answers in defense of Beveridge what he says in defense of Lodge, Beveridge may be benefitted; but, if after speaking in this state, he goes back to Massachusetts and denounces the insurgents, the effect is likely to be contrary to the hopes of the men who invited him to come here."

Race Riot in Texas.

Palestine, Texas, July 30.—At least 18 negroes were killed in a racial clash in the eastern section of Anderson county last night and today, the culmination of an enmity between the races which has been brewing for several weeks. Eighteen as the number of dead, is according to the more conservative reports that have reached here from the disorder occurred. Other reports the total fatalities at between 30 and 40. It was also reported as to casualties among the whites has met an authoritative denial.

Troops Ordered Out.

Tonight troops reached Palestine and immediately began an overland march of about 25 miles to the scene of the rioting. The arrival of the soldiers had a wholesome effect and tonight the belligerents are reported to be dispersing. Further bloodshed will in all probability be averted.

The first advices of the disturbance reached Palestine this morning. Officers were sent to the scene, local ammunition stores ordered to suspend sales, and the saloons closed. It was quickly apparent, however, that the situation was beyond the control of the local officers and troops were asked for. A company of militia under command of Captain Godfrey Fowler, a former United States army officer and more recently engaged in Nicaragua in the camps of the insurgents, was dispatched from Marshall, Texas, and arrived tonight.

An Army Gathering.

Greensburg, Pa., July 30.—Following a defeat in an alleged plot to draw a score of officers into a death trap early today, it was reported that striking miners near Export were mobilizing an army of nearly 4,000 to avenge the loss of one man in a battle with the deputies and fifty alleged strikers today.